

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

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NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AID-20 H-03 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15

OMB-01 DRC-01 /093 W

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R 261319Z JUN 74

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3326

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 0624

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SF

SUBJ: NEW AGREEMENT IN AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR INDUSTRY PROVIDES
FOR WORK RULE CHANGES AS WELL AS WAGE INCREASES

REF: JOHANNESBURG'S A-3, JANUARY 21, 1974

1. NEW AGREEMENT BETWEEN EMPLOYERS & TRADE UNIONS IN AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR INDUSTRY SCHEDULED TO GO INTO EFFECT JULY 1 AUTHORIZES JOB "FRAGMENTATION" AS DESCRIBED IN A-3 WHILE RAISING MINIMUM WEEKLY WAGES OF UNIONIZED WHITE MECHANICS FROM R46 TO R63.38 AND OF UNORGANIZED BLACK "ASSISTANTS" FROM R17.48 TO R26.22. THIS MEANS WHITE TRADE UNIONS HAVE FINALLY AGREED IN WRITING TO GO ALONG WITH "FRAGMENTATION" BUT ONLY IN EXCHANGE FOR PAY RAISES WHICH SIGNIFICANTLY WIDEN WAGE GAP BETWEEN WHITE AND BLACK MECHANICS. AS ADDED PROTECTION FOR WHITE TRADE UNIONISTS AGREEMENT LIMITS EMPLOYERS TO ONE LOWER-PAID "ASSISTANT" FOR EACH HIGHER-PAID JOURNEYMAN.

2. COMMENT: SUCCESS OF NEW AGREEMENT WILL DEPEND IN LARGE PART ON EXTENT TO WHICH EMPLOYERS AND HARD-LINE WHITE TRADE UNIONISTS NOW AGREE TO PROVIDE BLACKS WITH ADEQUATE ON-THE-JOB AND OTHER TRAINING EVENTUALLY INCLUDING APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING.

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Message Attributes

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